

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAIROB 01412 272255Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 HA-05 ACDA-12 AID-05 /092 W
-----065268 281314Z /23

R 271315Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4585
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 1412

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: KE, SO, ET, PBOR
SUBJECT: SHIFTA ACTIVITY IN NORTH

1. DAILY NATION JANUARY 27 HEADLINED "23 SHOT DEAD BY SHIFTA."
STORY, BY LOCAL CORRESPONDENT, REPORTED ASIDE FROM 23 DEAD
SHIFTA HAD SERIOUSLY WOUNDED 21 WHO NOW HOSPITALIZED.

2. ACTION REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE NEAR SOLOLO, SOME 40 MILES
WEST OF MOYALE ON KENYAN/ETHIOPIAN BORDER. SHIFTA SUPPOSEDLY
STRUCK VILLAGE DURING NIGHT 24-25. PRESS REPORT ADDED THAT
3 ARMED HOME GUARDS HAD BEEN TAKEN HOSTAGE.

3. KENYAN AIR FORCE OFFICER TOLD MEMBER TAFT JANUARY 25 THAT
SECTION EASTLEIGH (MILITARY) AIRPORT CLEARED THAT AFTERNOON
FOR PLANE CARRYING CASUALTIES. HE ADDED THAT CASUALTIES WERE
CIVILIAN VICTIMS OF SHIFTA ATTACK IN NORTH AND THAT 20 HAD
BEEN KILLED.

4. EMBOFF AND TAFT NOTICED COMBAT ARMY TROOPS AT EASTLEIGH
AFTERNOON JANUARY 26. TROOPS APPEARED TO BE WAITING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NAIROB 01412 272255Z

FOR AIR TRANSPORT.

5. COMMENT: THIS SHIFTA ACTIVITY IN NORTH FIRST
SINCE SERIOUS INCIDENTS OF LATE DECEMBER 77. WHILE THIS
SHIFTA RAID LARGE SCALE, WE DO NOT INTERPRET IT AS
POLITICALLY MOTIVATED OR CONTROLLED FROM MOGADISCIO.
LOCAL SHIFTA BANDS ON ETHIOPIAN SIDE OF BORDER HAVE BEEN

HARRASSING KENYAN VILLAGES FOR MANY MONTHS. ARMED
RAIDS TO STEAL FOOD AND CATTLE ARE A WAY OF LIFE IN THE
AREA.

6. HOWEVER, SHIFTA RAIDS UNDOUBTEDLY ADD TO NERVOUSNESS
OF KENYAN MILITARY WHICH IS WELL AWARE OF ITS VULNERABILITY
VIS A VIS SOMALI FORCES AND EVEN WELL ARMED AND MOBILE
SHIFTA. WE SUSPECT TROOPERS SEEN AT AIRPORT JANUARY 27
WERE ON WAY NORTH TO BOLSTER GARRISON IN MOYALE AREA.

LE MELLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NAIROB01412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780042-0911
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780114/aaaaalqh.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 97ad70df-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3701493
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHIFTA ACTIVITY IN NORTH
TAGS: PBOR, KE, SO, ET, SHIFTA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97ad70df-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014